

HB 346 -- HEALTH INSURER CONTRACTS WITH DENTISTS FOR NON-COVERED SERVICES

SPONSOR: Molendorp

COMMITTEE ACTION: Voted "Do Pass by Consent" by the Committee on Health Insurance by a vote of 10 to 0.

This bill prohibits a contract between a health carrier or health benefit plan and a dentist from requiring the dentist to provide services to an insured at a fee established by the carrier or plan if the services are not covered under the plan.

PROPONENTS: Supporters say that in past years this legislation has been voted out of the Committee on Health Insurance Policy, and the language in the bill was agreed upon by all interested parties. Most of the uncovered services are cosmetic in nature.

Testifying for the bill were Representative Molendorp and Missouri Dental Association.

OPPONENTS: There was no opposition voiced to the committee.

OTHERS: Others testifying on the bill say they have no problem with the legislation as long as it is not changed. Similar legislation has been adopted by a majority of states.

Testifying on the bill were America's Health Insurance Plans (AHIP) and Missouri Insurance Coalition.